

60 Winnaid St.
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Mrs. Manley;

I want to thank you first,
for showing your interest and confi-
dence in my ability.

As you said in your letter, I
had a poor season last year and
there must have been a reason for
it. It's extremely possible that
you didn't know the nature of my
illness and didn't inquire if I'm cor-
rect. I guess if you did hear of any
illness it would have been of the worse
sort. I had a very bad stomach ail-
ment during July and early August and
your manager knew it. I played
ball feeling almost too ill to raise
my head. If I complained I was

3) I was feeling good.

As far as the people in Newark not caring whether I never played there again, those very same fans are the ones who were patting me on the back in 1940 and would do so again if I played in Newark and had a successful year.

I had a terrible year, we take that for granted, but I'm young and I know I can play a little ball, so I think I am due for more good years in ball than bad, whether in Newark or not.

Baseball is not a one man game and I fully realize that it will go on without me. I am not and never have been the main cog in the

called "gutless." I lost twenty pounds ⁽²⁾ during the time. I went to the team doctor and he prepared to give me treatments for Syphilis without even diagnosing my case! I went to another doctor and was fully recovered at my own expense. When Johnny Hayes and I collided in Patterson that Saturday, I wasn't even of enough value to find how badly I was injured. I paid a doctor when I got home after the season, to x-ray my elbow and it was found to have been cracked by that collision. Thank goodness it's perfect now. Yet your manager said I was being a baby.

I know I can play ball when I am well. I played good ball the first and the finish of the season, on our western trip I did good because

4) Newark machine so I guess I will not be missed.

Personally you are a fine lady but our business ideas are not the same. So I guess I will only read of the successful Newark Eagles and their coming campaign.

I hope to be at the opening game as a spectator, seeing that we can't agree.

I want to thank you for your confidence in me in the past and I'm very sorry that I won't be able to further your trust and faith this year.

I don't imagine I'll hear from you again, so I wish you and your team success this season. Give my regards to all of them.

Sincerely,
Francis Matthews